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U. S. Department of Agriculture
Statistical Reporting Service
and
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Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 4/2/63

Week Ending 4/1/63

WEATHER Unseasonably mild temperatures prevailed throughout the week. There was considerable sunshine, low humidity and some strong winds. The only precipitation was scattered sprinkles on Sunday morning and scattered showers as the period closed on Monday morning.

Temperature averages were 15 to 20 degrees above normal. Beaver City recorded 89 degrees.

March temperatures averaged above normal across Nebraska. Precipitation totals were slightly below normal from the central portion of the State to the southern Panhandle and generally above normal elsewhere.

CROPS Field work was underway in nearly all areas of the State last week. The unusually warm temperatures and strong winds dried the soil rapidly and gave farmers a chance to start their spring operations. Planting of oats and barley was accelerated and by last Saturday, 16 percent of the intended oat acreage was seeded. Progress was more advanced than usual at this date. Early potatoes were being planted in the central and southwestern districts. Seedbeds for sugar beets were being prepared and beets were being planted in the upper Platte Valley. Stalk cutting, plowing, discing and spreading fertilizer were widespread. Planting activities will gain momentum rapidly if the weather remains warm and dry.

Winter grains responded to the higher temperatures and were making good growth. Some loss of winter wheat acreage during the winter is becoming apparent in many areas of the State. A combination of factors have contributed to this loss, including low temperatures without a protective snow covering, Hessian Fly infestation, varieties lacking resistance to low temperatures and a shortage of topsoil moisture. Fall seeded barley in the Panhandle also suffered from winter kill.

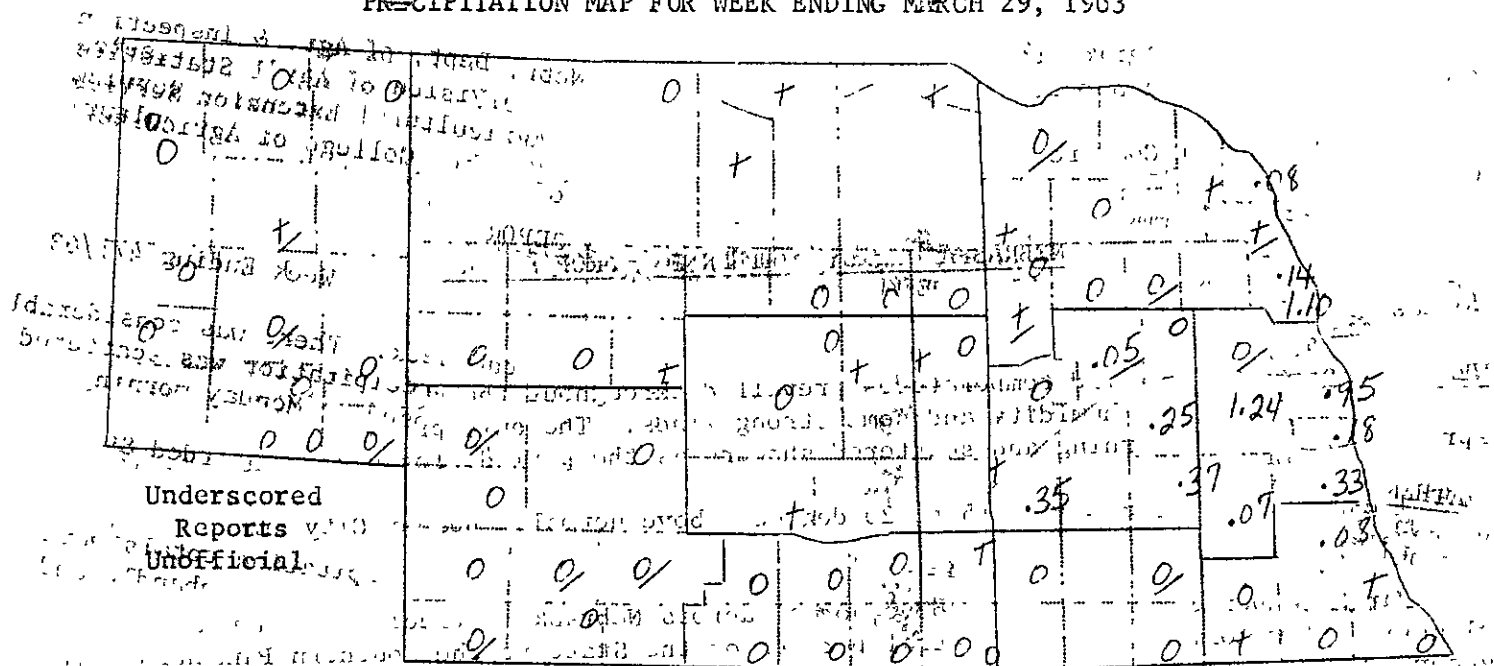
Pastures and ranges are greening rapidly and prospects are favorable for spring feed. Some early season grasses are starting to grow. There have been several grass fires on range land recently and precipitation is needed to reduce the fire hazard in the drier areas.

LIVESTOCK Calving operations were in full swing over most of the State and the warm weather helped in saving newborn calves. Young lambs and pigs were thriving with losses smaller than usual. Feedlot cattle continued to make good gains. Stock cattle are in average flesh at the start of the new grass season. Stock sheep shearing is about to get underway in the western districts.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 1, 1963

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	0	Burwell	0	Chadron	0
Lincoln	0	North Platte	0	Imperial	0
Norfolk	0	Valentine	0	Scottsbluff	0
Omaha	.04			Sidney	0
Sioux City	.08				

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 29, 1963



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 a.m. CST)

		March		March		March		March		March		April	
		26th		27th		28th		29th		30th		31st	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	56	22	64	30	70	52	81	39	66	31	74	41
	Scottsbluff	55	22	65	30	69	44	79	40	67	30	73	36
	Sidney	55	17	67	32	67	41	83	39	67	37	72	41
NG	Burwell	58	22	71	25	76	34	82	51	70	36	77	39
	Valentine	51	22	63	28	71	41	80	48	68	34	78	47
NE	Norfolk	57	36	68	32	76	37	80	56	70	36	76	41
	Sioux City	59	34	66	32	79	35	78	58	71	39	76	43
CEN	Grand Island	60	26	67	28	73	37	85	55	72	42	74	39
	Lincoln	61	38	66	41	78	50	81	60	73	43	73	52
EC	Omaha	55	35	60	38	73	43	78	62	70	47	73	50
	Imperial	58	17	71	32	72	38	83	48	67	40	74	39
SW	North Platte	59	23	71	25	73	40	82	47	69	44	75	41

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE